

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An unqualified person driving prevention apparatus for a vehicle, comprising:

a qualified person marker held by a driver having driving qualification;

a marker detector provided in the vehicle to detect the qualified person marker; and

a control unit for continuously monitoring an output from the marker detector and taking a predetermined measure to ensure safety when a state occurs in which the qualified person marker is not detected.

2. The unqualified person driving prevention apparatus for a vehicle as claimed in claim 1, wherein the measure is a warning for appealing to the sense of sight or the sense of hearing of the driver.

3. The unqualified person driving prevention apparatus for a vehicle as claimed in claim 1, wherein the measure is a driving stop of the vehicle.

4. The unqualified person driving prevention apparatus for a vehicle as claimed in claim 1, wherein the measure comprises a warning for appealing to the sense of sight or the sense of hearing of the driver and a driving stop of the vehicle performed after the warning.

5. The unqualified person driving prevention apparatus for a vehicle as claimed in claim 1, wherein the

measure is released when the marker detector again detects the qualified person marker.

6. The unqualified person driving prevention apparatus for a vehicle as claimed in claim 1, wherein the control unit takes the measure when a state occurs in which the qualified person marker is not detected for a predetermined time period.

7. The unqualified person driving prevention apparatus for a vehicle as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a driver detector for detecting the presence or absence of a driver riding on the vehicle,

wherein the control unit takes the measure when the qualified person marker is not detected by the marker detector and the driver is detected by the driver detector.

8. An unqualified person driving prevention apparatus for a vehicle, comprising:

a qualified person marker provided in a shoe worn by a driver having driving qualification;

a marker detector provided in a floor of a cab of the vehicle to detect the qualified person marker; and

a control unit for monitoring an output from the marker detector and taking a predetermined measure to ensure safety when a state occurs in which the qualified person marker is not detected.

9. The unqualified person driving prevention

apparatus for a vehicle as claimed in claim 8, wherein the measure is a warning for appealing to the sense of sight or the sense of hearing of the driver.

10. The unqualified person driving prevention apparatus for a vehicle as claimed in claim 8, wherein the measure is a driving stop of the vehicle.

11. The unqualified person driving prevention apparatus for a vehicle as claimed in claim 8, wherein the measure comprises a warning for appealing to the sense of sight or the sense of hearing of the driver and a driving stop of the vehicle performed after the warning.